

MINUTES

Monday, April 26, 2010 7:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m.

Mutchmor School Council Meeting: School Computer Lab

Present: Sherri Bonneville, Liz Doyle (minutes), Daood Aidroos, Gwenda Ko, Cindy Kirk, Barb Massey, Larry Stonebridge, Margo Williams, Margaret Back, Shonna Tuck, Jenny O'Brien.

Regrets: Connie Bruce, Judy Silvestro, Carol Watson, Kristal Davis, Hetty Mannethu, Anna Curtner

Special Guest: Dr. Lorne Rachlis

- 1) **Welcome & Approval of Agenda:** Moved, Larry Stonebridge, 2nd Daood Aidroos
- 2) **Approval of Minutes & Business Arising From Them:** Moved, Cindy Kirk. 2nd, Larry Stonebridge.
- 3) **Guest Speaker:** presentation by Lorne Rachlis, candidate for Zone 9 Trustee. Lorne Rachlis, former teacher, supervisor and CEO of the OCDSB, recently retired, is running for Zone 9 trustee. His presentation was followed by questions and discussion. Issues raised were his approach to specialized programs vs. amalgamation of distinct programs such as Gifted and Special Needs; trustee accountability and relations with former staffers; relationships between Catholic and regular school boards; liaising with community, parents, school board, and the Ministry of Education; and encouraging and maintaining civility 'at the table'.
- 4) **Principal's Report:** Sherri

Staffing:

- We are being staffed for 303 students. The proposed organization that was submitted to the board on April 16th is as follows:
JK(am), SK(pm), gr. 1, gr. 2, gr. 2 / 3, gr. 3 / 4, gr. 4 / 5, gr. 5 / 6, gr. 6 in the reg. program. Gr. 1 / 2, gr. 2/3, gr. 4, gr.5, gr. 6 in the Gifted program. We are awaiting approval of our proposed organization (not so much the classes, but the numbers that we have attached to the classes).
- We will have 2 Core French teachers, 1 LST, 1LRT, 0.5 ESL. EA allocation unknown at this point, although a request for 4 has been made. This translates into a loss of 2.9 FTE.
- The class organization with teaching assignments will be published in the May 14th School Newsletter.
- We are losing Mr. Cook, Mme Lori (CF), Ms. Quart (Spec. Ed.) and Mrs. Pinet (Spec. Ed.)

Stuff for Kids:

- Boys' and Girls' Basketball tournaments on April 28th and 29th.
- Scrabble Tournament coming up on May 5th – 2 teams participating
- Rhythm Project Musical Presentation on May 5, for all students -9:30am
- Gregg LaRock French concerts on May 6 (primary) and May 7 (jr)
- In-School Storytelling will be held on May 10 and the Storytelling Event at the GCC on May 13th (afternoon)
- Brass Quintet Musical Presentation on May 11 – 10:00am
- Some classes will be working with a multi media artist, Denis Bradette. The classes that are participating will work with the artist for 4 days, using recycled materials and what we have in the school to create their art.

Operational:

- Gr. 3 and Gr. 6 EQAO assessments to take place from Monday, May 31st to Monday, June 8th. The six 1 hour assessments will take place during the Literacy Block on each of the six days (Primary students in the morning and Junior students in the afternoon).
- The Scholastic Book Fair was very successful and we will receive \$2000.00 worth of books for our Library as a result of our overall sales.
- Bike racks update – see attached.

Discussion followed regarding a possible teacher's 'wish list' for support, whether in-class or as professional development.

- 5) **Treasurer's Report:** Judy was absent, and so Margo presented on her behalf. There were a number of questions regarding the latest budget, including monies currently designated for the Greening Project, which seemed higher than anticipated. Margo mentioned that the projected carry-over for next year is low compared to past years. Money generated by the Jump-a-Thon is actually part of the school budget, not the council

budget. Council hopes that Judy can come to the next meeting in order to work out these details. Also, Margo mentioned that Judy will not be with Council next year; we should be building in some crossover with the next Treasurer.

6) **SEAC Report:** Shonna reported that last SEAC meeting had a very good turnout, mostly due to a proposal regarding closure of some secondary gifted sites, and suggested transfer of Lisgar High School gifted program to Gloucester (which was defeated).

7) **OCASC Report:** Gwenda.

Last meeting was brief; information on the balanced school day was presented. The meeting prior to that one presented information on the closure of in-school daycares in the west end due to full-day kindergartens needing the room. Also, in 2012 the Ministry of Education is introducing a 'healthier foods' policy which may affect Mutchmor programs such as Pizza Lunch.

8) **Zone 9:** Cindy and Barb.

A good rep meeting with Mike Carsons regarding the pressures on schools. Full day kindergarten is going to have enormous consequences on downtown schools. Barb said that the Mutchmor parent survey report is on the Council web site and reveals that most parents are interested in MFI as a program for Mutchmor, with EFI being a last choice. Council discussed many different possible options, including revisiting boundaries, strengthening English program, expanding grades at Glashan, options with Hopewell. Barb said that Mutchmor was 'way ahead' of the other zone 9 schools in terms of our survey and knowing what Mutchmor parents want. The pros and cons of an Accommodation Review versus a 'consultation' were discussed in Council, with Sherri pointing out that an ARC (Accommodation Review Committee) has the ability to actually change things and council would have representation on the committee. Council should know by May if an ARC will be formed.

9) **Greening Project:** Cindy reported that we have enough money for the tree protection, less about \$200. Corpus Christi has contributed \$500; Cindy proposes that it should be used to cover the tree protection and the rest towards the outdoor classroom. Evergreen turned down our application for trees, quiet seating and tree protection. Council still has time to raise the remaining \$6000 by the end of fall. The 800 form has been submitted to the Board for planting and other work and Cindy has been monitoring its progress through the system. The trees should be in the ground by May 31, or in the fall, barring the spring option. Sherri offered to make some calls to help nudge the process along. Also for the Greening Project, Cindy mentioned the Samko and Miko sale happening at Lansdowne Park: all stamped receipts will result in Mutchmor receiving 10% return for the Greening Project. Sherri asked Cindy to make sure Jean Neidy knew about this.

10) **Fundraising:** Margo.

- Jump-a-thon: Margo told Council that the Jump-a-Thon made about \$6000; 10% of which to go to 'teacher's choice', 90% to Greening Project. About \$4400 came from parents, \$1700 from corporate sponsors. \$430 is in cash, and could be easily directed to the 'teachers choice' Tax receipts will be issued; the monies go into the school account.
- Glebe Garage Sale: Barb has sold 17 tables through Ms. Neidy – many thanks!—and is taking requests daily. Tiggy Winkles has been approached for donations. Barb has put out a first call for helpers, who are required from 6:30 am-3:00 (with 6:30-10:00 being the most crucial time). Cindy asked to have two tables set aside for Greening tables, with all donated items for the table selling for the Greening Project – agreed by Council, Cindy to coordinate. Barb will ask Ms. Neidy to reserve.
- myColdCup: Gwenda has designed and is producing a 'cold cup' that will keep milk cold! Council agrees to promote the item as a fund-raiser.

11) **Council Positions:** Margo

As earlier reported, Judy will not be returning to Council, so a Treasurer is needed a.s.a.p., to take advantage of the present cross-over period. In order to entice new members to Council, the next (and last meeting) will be held at the Arrow and Loon pub.

12) **Storytelling Festival:** Larry.

Brief mention that the storytelling festival is on, with in-school presentations on May 10 and presentations at the Glebe Community Centre on May 13th.

13) **End of the Year BBQ:** Jenny O'Brien told Council of ongoing preparations for the year-end BBQ planned for Friday, June 11th. Arrangements have been made with Elie at the Arrow and Loon to provide food and the kids from Eco-Cubs and Eco-Club to man a recycling station. May 13 is the deadline for info to go into the May parent newsletter. Margo suggested using the PIP grant to off-set the cost of the food, making it more affordable for more parents. Jenny will contact Kerry at Life of Pie to sell pie slices for dessert.

14) **Junior Mural Acknowledgement:** Larry said that the photo of the Junior Mural Acknowledgement had been taken and will be in the next issue of the Glebe Report. Many thanks to Marie-Christine Feraud and her team of volunteers as well as the Grade 3 classes from 2006-7 who were all a part of this project.

15) **Teacher Appreciation Luncheon:** Margo told Council that the Teacher Appreciation lunch is usually held in June at a date that suits most of the teachers. Council buys lunch and volunteers make some of the offerings (salads, etc.) Although this is well in hand, Margo will need a few volunteers to run it.

16) **Bike Racks** – Sherri told Council that she had sourced suitable bike racks, which are serpentine style. They are \$921 each; savings can be had if more than one is ordered. It will take about 21 days to order and install. Margo will find out from Judy if there is enough money in the budget for two. Sherri will need to initiate a 800 form.

17) **Adjournment** at 8:55pm.

**Next Meeting: Monday, May 31 2010 @ 7:00 pm
at the Arrow and the Loon Pub**